

groups appear to be part of a broader pattern of intolerance of criticism.

In 2013, the United States, the United Kingdom, the United Nations Human Rights Council, Amnesty International, and Freedom House all expressed concern over the interference of the Rwandan Government in determining the leadership of the Rwandan League for the Promotion and Defense of Human Rights, one of the last remaining independent advocacy organizations in the country. This has effectively curtailed domestic civil society initiatives to monitor human rights abuses.

In June of this year, the U.S. State Department cited its deep concern over the arrest and disappearance of dozens of Rwandan citizens over a period of 2 months, citing incommunicado detention and a lack of due process, as well as the threatening of journalists.

Also in June, Human Rights Watch, HRW, an organization that has worked on Rwanda for more than 20 years and documented the 1994 genocide, was accused by the Ministry of Justice of political bias and collaboration with the Democratic Forces for the Liberation of Rwanda, FDLR, some of whose members participated in the genocide and committed horrific human rights abuses in eastern Democratic Republic of Congo, DRC. These accusations come in the wake of a May HRW critique of the Rwandan Government's actions, including forced disappearances, and discount HRW's constant critique of the FDLR's egregious human rights record in the DRC. HRW, the last independent international organization based in Kigali speaking out against human rights abuses, appears at increasing risk of not being able to do its job, and perhaps even of being shut down.

Rwanda's past should not be used as an excuse to suppress free speech and independent reporting in Rwanda today. Dissent is an important tool for citizens in holding their elected leaders accountable. Peaceful, law-abiding individuals and organizations should not be labeled as conspirators or enemies of state because they question the government. Freedom of expression and due process are rights that should extend to all Rwandans and its visitors—including journalists, human rights advocates, opposition members, and everyday citizens alike.

Rwanda has made great strides, but there is still work to do. As Rwanda faces its newest challenges, the United States stands with its people and remains committed to their success.

HONORING OUR ARMED FORCES

SPECIALIST DYLAN J. JOHNSON

Mr. INHOFE. Madam President, I wish to remember the life and sacrifice of a remarkable young man, Army SPC Dylan J. Johnson. Dylan died 3 years ago today, June 26, 2011, of injuries suffered from an improvised explosive device in Diyala Province, Iraq, in support of Operation New Dawn.

Dylan was born November 07, 1990, in Tulsa, OK. His father Jeff Johnson said Dylan "had aspired to military service for years and dressed as a soldier for Halloween six years running." After Dylan graduated from Jenks High School, he joined the military in August 2009, largely inspired by the men on both sides of his family who served with the military during World War II and Korea.

After completing basic training at Fort Knox, KY, Dylan was assigned to the 4th Squadron, 9th Cavalry Regiment, 2d Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division in Fort Hood, TX.

Specialist Johnson departed on Memorial Day 2011 for his first overseas deployment and arrived in Iraq June 2. On June 26, 2011, Dylan tragically died of injuries he sustained when insurgents attacked his armored vehicle with an improvised explosive device. One other soldier in the vehicle was killed alongside of Dylan.

"Dylan possessed a kind spirit and was a bit reserved in my world literature class," said teacher, Ron Acebo. "We all ache for the loss of this young life and grieve with his family. As teachers, we all hold hopes and dreams for our students. We do not know what he could have achieved but we are humbled that he had made the supreme sacrifice for his country. . . . and that is how he will be remembered."

A memorial service was held July 6, 2011, at Kirk of the Hills Church in Tulsa, OK and he was buried at Arlington National Cemetery on August 9, 2011.

At a ceremony on his birthday in 2013, the State of Oklahoma dedicated to his memory the bridge on U.S. 75 across Polecat Creek, just south of Main Street in Jenks, OK. A sign reading "Specialist Dylan Johnson Memorial Bridge" was emplaced on the structure, and his father asked those gathered to remember Oklahoma's other fallen soldiers when they cross it.

Dylan's military honors include the Purple Heart, the Bronze Star, the Army Good Conduct Medal, the National Defense Service Medal, and the Iraqi Campaign Medal with Combat Service Star.

In addition to his father, Dylan is survived by his mother Joy Sehl; his stepmother Lynda Johnson; two sisters, Alexandra Johnson and Kathryn Sehl; and two stepsisters, Brittany Dinan and Brooke Dinan. All are of Tulsa, OK.

Today we remember Army SPC Dylan J. Johnson, a young man who loved his family and country and gave his life as a sacrifice for freedom.

SPECIALIST JORDAN M. MORRIS

Madam President, I now wish to remember the life and sacrifice of a remarkable young man, Army SPC Jordan M. Morris. Along with 4 other soldiers, Jordan died August 11, 2011 of injuries he sustained from an improvised explosive device in Kandahar Province, Afghanistan, in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

Jordan was born in Elk City, OK on February 12, 1988, and later moved to Ripley, OK. While attending Ripley High School, he was a member of the baseball team, National Honor Society, 4-H, and served as Student Council president. He was concurrently enrolled and graduated from the Oklahoma School of Science and Math. As an active member of the Hillcrest Baptist Church, he was very involved with the youth group and enjoyed spending time serving others on various mission trips.

After graduating as class valedictorian from Ripley High School in 2006, he fulfilled a dream he had from the age of 8 as he was accepted to the U.S. Military Academy at West Point. Jordan spent 4 years at West Point, majoring in mechanical engineering. Friend Caleb Eytcheson said Jordan "wanted to be the best, and he knew West Point is where they trained the best. He wanted to serve his country," he said.

Jordan joined the Army in January 2011, serving as an infantryman. After completing training at Fort Benning, GA he was assigned to 1st Battalion, 32nd Infantry Regiment, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 10th Mountain Division, Fort Drum, NY. On May 5, 2011, Jordan deployed to Afghanistan.

Doug Scott, assistant principal of Ripley High School said Morris was intelligent, had a great sense of humor and was very popular in school. "He showed his unselfish side by going overseas," Scott said.

Jordan's baseball coach, Donnie Hoffman said: "The world is not as good a place, when you lose people with the character that he was. The legacy he leaves behind was the way he led his life, the character, the discipline, the dedication, the honor."

Jordan was buried August 20, 2011 at Palmer Marler Funeral Home in Stillwater, OK.

Jordan is survived by his parents Brett and Nita (Faber) Morris of Stillwater; two brothers Levi James and Jesse Isaac Morris of Stillwater; grandparents Wilma Faber, of Tulsa, James and Patricia Morris, of Broken Arrow; numerous aunts, uncles, cousins and friends, as well as his former West Point classmates and fellow soldiers in the 1st Battalion, 32nd Infantry Regiment, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 10th Mountain Division.

Today we remember Army SPC Jordan M. Morris, a young man who loved his family and country, and gave his life as a sacrifice for freedom.

SPECIALIST JOSHUA M. SEALS

Madam President, I also wish to remember the life and sacrifice of a remarkable young man, Army SPC Joshua M. Seals. Specialist Seals died August 16, 2011 of non-combat injuries at Forward Operating Base Lightning in Paktika Province, Afghanistan, in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. He was assigned to the 1st Battalion, 279th Infantry Regiment, 45th Infantry Brigade Combat Team, Oklahoma National Guard.

Joshua was born April 10, 1990, in Glendale, AZ and later moved to Porter, OK. While attending Porter High School he played football, was an honor roll student and a member of the academic team. He was also active in Wagoner County 4-H and showed Dutch rabbits.

He joined the military as a truck driver in 2008 while still in high school. Aunt Trina Seals said "his mother and father served in the Army, and he felt it was just something he wanted to do."

"My thoughts and prayers go out to the Seals family and friends," said Maj. Gen. Myles Deering, Oklahoma's adjutant general. "As we mourn his loss in the days ahead, we will be forever honored and proud that he chose to serve his country and the people of Oklahoma in the National Guard."

Principal Larry Shackelford described him as a great student and a wonderful young man with a bright outlook.

A memorial and burial service was held August 27, 2011 at Greenwood Cemetery in Porter, OK.

Specialist Seals is survived by his parents Rhonda and Stanley; wife Andrina; and siblings Jeremy, Sarah and James.

Today we remember Army SPC Joshua M. Seals, a young man who loved his family and country, and gave his life as a sacrifice for freedom.

SPECIALIST JAMES T. WICKLIFF-CHACIN

Madam President, I pay tribute to a true American hero, Army SPC James T. Wickliff-Chacin of Edmond, OK who died on September 20, 2013 serving our nation in Pul-E-Alam, Afghanistan. Specialist Wickliff-Chacin was assigned to 6th Squadron, 8th Cavalry Regiment, 4th Brigade Combat Team, Fort Stewart, GA.

James died at Brook Army Medical Center in San Antonio, TX of injuries sustained when an improvised explosive device detonated near his dismounted patrol during combat operations in Pul-E-Alam, Afghanistan on August 12, 2013. He was 22 years old.

Born February 18, 1991 in Venezuela, James moved to Oklahoma with his family in 2006. He graduated from Edmond Santa Fe High School in 2010. After graduation, he enlisted as an infantryman in the Army in June 2010 and arrived at his unit in October 2010.

"He had a good future," his father said. "He had all the scores to go to whatever college he wanted." But James wanted to join the Army. Friends said he was proud of his service even before he graduated from high school.

"I remember him as a young man who very much wanted to go into the military," said his former high school principal Jason Brown. The following year, before graduation, James had asked ahead of time if the school was going to do anything to recognize students who would be serving in the military. "I told him he would have to wait but he was in for a surprise," Brown

said. "During graduation we always asked for those individuals to stand up who wanted to go into the military. I distinctly remember looking for and finding him in the audience and he was smiling ear to ear."

This was his second deployment; he previously deployed to Iraq from March to June 2011.

In May 2013, James wrote on his Facebook page "I am proud to carry the legacy of my family. We are warriors at heart that fight against all odds to protect those who need us. There is nothing else that I would rather be doing with my life."

James was laid to rest at Fort Sill National Cemetery, Elgin, OK on October 3, 2013. He was posthumously awarded the Purple Heart and the Army Commendation Medal of Valor.

Today we remember Army SPC James T. Wickliff-Chacin, a young man who loved his family and country, and gave his life as a sacrifice for freedom.

TRIBUTE TO ANDREA FOUBERG

Mr. THUNE. Madam President, today I recognize Andrea "Andi" Foubert, communications director in my Washington, DC office, for over 9 years of hard work she has done for me, my staff, and the State of South Dakota.

Andi is a native of Letcher, SD, and is a graduate of South Dakota State University, SDSU. During her time working in the Senate, Andi has worked as deputy State director, deputy communications director, and as communications director. On July 7, 2014 Andi will become the president and chief executive officer at the SDSU Alumni Association.

I extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Andi for nearly a decade of dedicated work she has done and wish her continued success in the years to come.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

UNITY, NEW HAMPSHIRE

• Ms. AYOTTE. Madam President, I wish to honor the town of Unity, NH. This great American community is celebrating the 250th anniversary of its founding, and I am proud to recognize this historic event.

Located in Sullivan County in the western part of the State, the town of Unity includes the villages of Unity, East and West Unity, and Quaker City. The origins of Unity date back to 1753 when the territory then known as Buckingham was chartered through a series of grants from New Hampshire Governor Benning Wentworth and the Massachusetts government. Unfortunately, this grew territorial tension among the local residents, so in 1764 the town of Unity was formally incorporated. Today Unity is home to approximately 1,700 New Hampshire residents who take great pride in living their lives as their town name intended them to, in unity.

The Unity Town Hall, which today serves as the official location for Unity Town Hall meetings, was constructed in 1831. It was originally a Baptist meeting house, but the town of Unity purchased the building for \$25.00 in 1877. It has since undergone renovation but still stands proudly today where in the bell tower hangs a famed Revere Bell which will ring forth in celebration of Unity on July 11, 2014.

Unity is an example of a quintessential New Hampshire town whose citizens embody everything that it means to be great Americans. So today we honor the 250th anniversary of Unity, NH. We commend its citizens and recognize their accomplishments, their love of country, and their spirit of independence. But more importantly, we look forward to the next 250 years and the great things this town will have to offer.●

RECOGNIZING WILD TOUCH TAXIDERMISTRY

• Mr. RISCH. Madam President, more and more small businesses across America have started to pursue opportunities outside of our borders by extending their markets globally. According to the Small Business Administration, almost 96 percent of consumers reside outside of the United States. The benefits to small businesses that export are compelling. According to a report by the Institute for International Economics, U.S. exporting firms grow 2 to 4 percent faster in employment than their nonexporting counterparts, offer better opportunities for advancement, expand their annual total sales faster, and are nearly 8.5 percent less likely to go out of business.

Today, I would like to recognize one such U.S. small business that has experienced growth in revenues and employment because they have pursued exporting opportunities across the globe. Wild Touch Taxidermy in Meridian, ID, a small business dedicated to quality products, has achieved an outstanding reputation both domestically and overseas.

Licensed since 1985, Wild Touch Taxidermy specializes in custom taxidermy for customers who desire a unique and high-quality trophy. Family owned and operated by Kelly and Sharon Adams, Wild Touch Taxidermy lives up to their motto, "We Do It All." The small taxidermy business offers a high-quality way to preserve and display trophy animals of all sizes and from any country, including skull mounts, old mounts, tan hides, and clean skulls. Wild Touch Taxidermy operates in a federally approved facility with U.S. Department of Agriculture permission, allowing them to receive restricted and out-of-country imports and enabling them to expand their business internationally.